

Introduced By:

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RESOLUTION #2008-xx

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING MONTGOMERY COUNTY RIDE ON
TO EVALUATE THE NO. 25 BUS ROUTE**

WHEREAS, on May 5, 2008, the Transportation Committee of the Tower Senior Association of Victory Tower asked the Takoma Park City Council to support its efforts to obtain public bus service that directly connects their building at 7051 Carroll Avenue to the Takoma Park Community Center at 7500 Maple Avenue; AND

WHEREAS, to use public transportation today between the two facilities requires a transfer to another bus, can require an hour or more to go the short distance between the buildings, and is a hardship for the seniors and residents with disabilities who live in Victory Tower; AND

WHEREAS, if the Ride On Route 25 bus route were changed to proceed from the Takoma Metro station to Carroll Avenue, Philadelphia Avenue, and then to the current route along Maple Avenue, the senior citizens and disabled residents at Victory Tower would have much more convenient access to the Takoma Park Public Library, senior programs and recreation activities at the Takoma Park Community Center, the public swimming pool at Piney Branch Elementary School, and the entrance to the Washington Adventist Hospital; AND

WHEREAS, having a bus route that could avoid the section of Maple Avenue between Carroll Street and Philadelphia Avenue would also avoid the seven speed humps, one raised intersection and one raised crosswalk that are installed in this section, which is seen as advantageous by those with physical disabilities that are aggravated by riding on unsmooth surfaces; AND

WHEREAS, after making the proposal to alter Ride On Route 25, other suggestions for changes to Route 25 and adjacent bus routes have been made, including:

- extending Route 25 to the Long Branch commercial district near Flower Avenue and Piney Branch Road;
- modifying either the Route 12 or 13 bus to accommodate the request by Victory Tower, such that one of the two routes could be directed onto Philadelphia and Maple Avenues and through the Washington Adventist Hospital property before rejoining its original route on Carroll and Flower Avenues;
- maintaining the current Route 25 route during rush hours to expedite travel

to and from the Takoma Metro while avoiding congestion at the Carroll Avenue/ Philadelphia Avenue intersection; and

- altering the Route 25 route as suggested by the residents of Victory Tower, but avoiding the Carroll Avenue/Philadelphia Avenue intersection by continuing to Maple Avenue via Tulip Avenue or by looping through the Victory Tower property, returning to Maple and Carroll Streets and then proceeding down Maple Avenue; AND

WHEREAS, many residents have submitted helpful comments and suggestions regarding bus service in Takoma Park during the consideration of this request to change Route 25; AND

WHEREAS, the Takoma Park City Council supports the efforts of Victory Tower to pursue convenient and sufficient public transportation to allow them to obtain services and enjoy the facilities and opportunities available in Takoma Park.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the City of Takoma Park urges officials of Montgomery County Ride On to consider modifying bus service in Takoma Park to allow the residents of Victory Tower to more conveniently and comfortably ride to the Takoma Park Community Center by Ride On bus, AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Council of the City of Takoma Park urges Ride On, in meeting the needs of Victory Tower residents, to also meet other needs of Takoma Park residents to easily connect to nearby commercial areas, to the Washington Adventist Hospital and to Metro stations and other bus routes.